

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A bracket for connecting a pair of substantially perpendicular building components so as to allow relative vertical movement between said pair of building components, said bracket comprising:
 - a) a first connector plate;
 - b) a second connector plate, said first and second connector plates being connected with each other substantially at a right angle so as to form a right angled juncture;
 - c) a plurality of stiffener channels disposed in said right-angled juncture;
 - d) a plurality of substantially linear stiffener channels disposed in said first connector plate;
 - e) a plurality of elongated slots extending through said second connector plate and being substantially parallel with each other, and wherein one or more of said elongated slots is disposed within a recessed slot stiffener region in said second connector plate; and
 - f) a plurality of collinearly disposed dimples on said first connector plate, said plurality of dimples being adapted to receive a portion of a corresponding fastener therein to guide and align the placement of said corresponding fasteners.

2. (Original) The bracket of claim 1 wherein each one of said plurality of linear stiffener channels is substantially perpendicular with said second connector plate.

3. (Original) The bracket of claim 2 wherein each one of said plurality of linear stiffener channels extends from a corresponding one of said plurality of stiffener channels in said right angled juncture.

4. (Original) The bracket of claim 1 further comprising fastener placement and measurement indicia along a length of each said elongated slot.

5. (Original) The bracket of claim 4 wherein at least one of said plurality of elongated slots is substantially parallel with said right-angled juncture.

6. (Original) The bracket of claim 4 wherein at least one of said plurality of elongated slots is perpendicular to said right-angled juncture.

7. (Currently amended) A bracket for connecting a pair of substantially perpendicular building components, said bracket comprising:

- a) a first connector plate ~~having one or more fastener holes therethrough for non-movably coupling said first connector plate to one of the building components;~~
- b) a second connector plate, said first and second connector plates being integrally connected with each other substantially at a right angle so as to form a right angled juncture;
- c) a plurality of stiffeners disposed in said right-angled juncture;
- d) a plurality of substantially linear stiffener channels disposed in said first connector

plate; ~~and~~

e) at least one stiffener region embossed into said second connector plate; and
e) f) one or more rows of fastener-receiving holes extending through said second connector plate and being disposed within a said at least one embossed stiffener region therein for non-movably fastening said second connector plate to another one of the building components, each of said one or more rows of holes being substantially parallel with any adjacent one of said one or more rows of holes.

8. (Original) The bracket of claim 7 wherein each one of said one or more rows of holes is disposed within a stiffener region.

9. (Original) The bracket of claim 8 wherein each one of said plurality of linear stiffener channels extends from a corresponding one of said plurality of stiffener channels in said right angled juncture.

10. (Original) The bracket of claim 7 wherein at least one of said one or more of rows of holes is substantially parallel with said right-angled juncture.

11. (Original) The bracket of claim 7 wherein at least one of said plurality of rows of holes is substantially perpendicular to said right-angled juncture.

12. (Currently amended) A vertical slide clip, comprising:
a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material and having a pair of lateral ends with an upstanding flange formed thereon;
a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material at a right angle relative to said first connector plate so as to form a right-angled juncture therewith;
a plurality of stiffener channels formed in said piece of metal and being disposed in said right-angled juncture;
a plurality of elongated slots in said second connector plate; and
a score line in said ~~second~~ first connector plate for locating fasteners therealong.

13. (Currently amended) The vertical slide clip of claim 12 wherein said score line is substantially parallel to said ~~first~~ second connector plate.

14. (Original) The vertical slide clip of claim 12 further comprising a plurality of fastener-receiving dimples in said first connector plate and oriented on said score line.

15. (Original) The vertical slide clip of claim 12 further comprising at least one measurement indicia in said second connector plate and associated with at least one of said elongated slots.

16. (Previously presented) A vertical slide clip, comprising:
a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material and having a pair of lateral

ends with an upstanding flange formed thereon;

a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material at a right angle relative to said first connector plate so as to form a right-angled juncture therewith;

a plurality of stiffener channels formed in said piece of metal and being disposed in said right angle juncture;

at least one linear stiffener ridge formed in said first connector plate and extending from at least one of said stiffener channels;

at least one elongated slot in said second connector plate; and

a score mark in said first connector plate for locating fasteners therealong, said score mark extending perpendicular to said at least one linear stiffener ridge.

17. (Original) The vertical slide clip of claim 16 further comprising a plurality of fastener-receiving dimples in said first connector plate and oriented on said score mark.

18. (Currently amended) The vertical slide clip of claim 16 further comprising at least one measurement indicia in said ~~first~~ second connector plate and associated with at least one said elongated slot.

19. (Currently amended) A vertical slide clip, comprising:
a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material and having a pair of lateral ends having an upstanding flange formed thereon;
a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material at a right angle relative to said first connector plate so as to form a right angled juncture therewith, said right angled

juncture having two ends and a central portion;

three stiffener channels formed in said piece of metal and being disposed in said central portion of said right-angled juncture;

other stiffener channels disposed at each end of said right-angled juncture;

stiffener ridges formed in said first connector plate and corresponding to each of said stiffener channels disposed in said central portion of said right angled juncture and protruding therefrom perpendicularly to said second connector plate[.];

at least one elongated slot in said second connector plate; and

a plurality of aligned score lines in said first connector plate wherein at least one of said score lines extends between each of said stiffener ridges protruding from said stiffener channels disposed in said central portion of said right angled juncture.

20. (Original) The vertical slide clip of claim 19 wherein at least one other of said score lines is located between one of said stiffener ridges disposed in said central portion of said right angled juncture and an end of said first connector plate and wherein another of said score lines is located between another of said stiffener ridges disposed in said central portion of said right angled juncture and another end of said first connector plate.

21. (Currently amended) The vertical slide clip of claim 19 further comprising a plurality of fastener-receiving dimples in said first connector plate wherein at least one of fastener-receiving dimples is oriented on at least one of said aligned score lines.

22. (Currently amended) A slide clip comprising:

~~a clip having~~ an elongated first connector plate; ~~and~~

an elongated second connector plate at a right angle to said elongated ~~second~~ first connector plate;

a first recessed stiffener region in said second connector plate;

a first elongated slot in said first recessed stiffener region; and
a score line in said first connector plate.

23. (Previously presented) The slide clip of claim 22 further comprising:
a second recessed stiffener region in said second connector plate, said second recessed stiffener region adjacent said first recessed stiffener region; and
a second elongated slot in said second recessed stiffener region.

24. (Previously presented) The slide clip of claim 23 further comprising:
a third recessed stiffener region in said second connector plate, said third recessed stiffener region adjacent said second recessed stiffener region; and
a third elongated slot in said third recessed stiffener region.

25. (Currently amended) The slide clip of claim 24 further comprising:
a fourth recessed stiffener region in said second connector plate, said fourth recessed stiffener region adjacent said third recessed stiffener region; and
a fourth elongated slot in said ~~third~~ fourth recessed stiffener region.

26. (Original) The slide clip of claim 25 wherein said first, second, third, and fourth, elongated slots are substantially parallel to each other.

27. (Previously presented) The slide clip of claim 25 wherein said first, second, third, and fourth elongated slots are substantially perpendicular to said first connector plate.

28. (Original) A bracket for connecting a pair of substantially perpendicular building components, said bracket comprising:

a) a first connector plate having one or more fastener holes therethrough for non-

movably coupling said first connector plate to one of the building components;

b) a second connector plate, said first and second connector plates being integrally connected with each other substantially at a right angle so as to form a right angled juncture;

c) a plurality of stiffener channels having a substantially triangular shape when viewed from a lateral side thereof, said substantially triangular shaped stiffener channels disposed in said right angle juncture, each one of said plurality of triangular shaped stiffener channels being of substantially U-shaped cross-section in a plane parallel with said first connector plate, each one of said plurality of triangular shaped stiffener channels further having said substantially U-shaped cross-section in a plane parallel with said second connector plate;

d) a plurality of substantially linear stiffener channels disposed in said first connector plate;

e) one or more rows of fastener-receiving holes extending through said second connector plate for non-movably fastening said second connector plate to another one of the building components, each of said one or more rows of holes being substantially parallel with any adjacent one of said one or more rows of holes; and

f) a plurality of collinearly disposed dimples on said first connector plate, said plurality of dimples being adapted to receive a portion of a corresponding fastener therein to guide and align the placement of said corresponding fasteners.

29. (Original) A bracket for connecting a pair of substantially perpendicular building components, said bracket comprising:

a) a first connector plate having one or more fastener holes therethrough for non-movably coupling said first connector plate to one of the building components;

b) a second connector plate, said first and second connector plates being integrally connected with each other substantially at a right angle so as to form a right angled juncture;

c) a plurality of stiffener channels having a substantially triangular shape when viewed from a lateral side thereof, said substantially triangular shaped stiffener channels

disposed in said right angle juncture, each one of said plurality of triangular shaped stiffener channels being of substantially U-shaped cross-section in a plane parallel with said first connector plate, each one of said plurality of triangular shaped stiffener channels further having said substantially U-shaped cross-section in a plane parallel with said second connector plate;

- d) a plurality of substantially linear stiffener channels disposed in said first connector plate;
- e) one or more rows of fastener-receiving holes extending through said second connector plate for non-movably fastening said second connector plate to another one of the building components, each of said one or more rows of holes being substantially parallel with any adjacent one of said one or more rows of holes; and
- f) fastener placement measurement indicia along the length of each said row of holes.

30. (Original) A bracket for connecting a pair of building components so as to allow relative vertical movement therebetween, said bracket comprising:

- a) a first connector plate;
- b) a second connector plate coupled to said first connector plate;
- c) at least one stiffener channel disposed in a juncture formed by said first and second connector plates;
- d) at least one linear stiffener channel disposed in said first connector plate;
- e) at least one elongated slot disposed within a recessed slot stiffener region in said second connector plate; and
- f) at least one dimple on said first connector plate, each said dimple being adapted to receive a portion of a corresponding fastener therein to guide and align the placement of said corresponding fastener.

31. (Original) The bracket of claim 30 further comprising fastener placement and

measurement indicia along a length of each said elongated slot.

32. (Currently amended) A bracket for connecting a pair of building components together, said bracket comprising:

- a) a first connector plate having one or more fastener holes therethrough for non-movably coupling said first connector plate to one of the building components;
- b) a second connector plate integrally connected to said first connector plate;
- c) at least one stiffener disposed in a juncture formed between said first and second connector plates;
- d) at least one substantially linear stiffener channel disposed in said first connector plate; and
- e) one or more rows of fastener-receiving holes extending through said second connector plate and being disposed within a stiffener region therein for non-movably fastening said second connector plate to another one of the building components, each of said one or more rows of holes being substantially parallel with any adjacent one of said one or more rows of holes.

33. (Currently amended) A vertical slide clip, comprising:

- a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material;
- a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material such that said first and second connector plates form an L-shaped clip with a juncture therebetween;
- at least one stiffener channel formed in said piece of metal material and being disposed in ~~a~~ said juncture between said first and second connector plate plates;
- at least one elongated slot in said second connector plate, at least one said elongated slot extending along an axis that is substantially perpendicular to said juncture; and
- a score line in said ~~second~~ first connector plate for locating fasteners therealong.

34. (Currently amended) The vertical slide clip of claim 33 wherein said score line is substantially parallel to said ~~first~~ second connector plate.

35. (Original) The vertical slide clip of claim 33 further comprising at least one fastener-receiving dimple in said first connector plate and oriented on said score line.

36. (Original) The vertical slide clip of claim 33 further comprising at least one measurement indicia in said second connector plate and associated with at least one of said elongated slots.

37. (Original) A vertical slide clip, comprising:
a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material;
a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material;
at least one stiffener channel formed in said piece of metal and being disposed in a juncture between said first and second connector plates;
at least one linear stiffener ridge extending from at least one of said stiffener channels;
at least one elongated slot in said second connector plate; and
a score mark in said first connector plate for locating fasteners therealong, said score mark extending perpendicular to said at least one linear stiffener ridge.

38. (Currently amended) A slide clip comprising:
an elongated first connector plate;
an elongated second connector plate connected to said elongated ~~second~~ first connector plate;
~~a first~~ at least one recessed stiffener region in said substantially planar second connector plate;
~~a first~~ at least one slot in at least one of said ~~first~~ recessed stiffener ~~region~~ regions; and

a score line in said first connector plate.

39. (Currently amended) A fastener clip for non-movably fastening one member relative to another member at a substantial right angle thereto, said fastener clip comprising:

a first connector plate;

a second connector plate connected to said first connector plate and substantially protruding perpendicularly therefrom to form a right angled juncture therewith;

a plurality of first stiffener channels formed in said right angled juncture, each said first stiffener channel having a first geometric configuration;

a plurality of second stiffener channels in said ~~second~~ first connector plate, each said second stiffener channel corresponding to one of said first stiffener channels and having a second geometric configuration that differs from said first geometric configuration;

a pair of rows of ~~round~~ fastener holes through said ~~first~~ second connector plate for receiving corresponding fasteners therethrough to non-movably affix the ~~first~~ second connector plate to the member; and

at least two ~~round~~ holes through the ~~second~~ first connector plate for receiving other corresponding fasteners therethrough to non-movably affix the ~~second~~ first connector plate to the another member.

40. (Currently amended) A fastener clip for non-movably fastening one member relative to another member at a substantial right angle thereto, said fastener clip comprising:

a first connector plate;

a second connector plate, said first and second connector plates being connected to each other substantially at a right angle so as to form a right angled juncture;

a plurality of stiffener channels having a substantially triangular shape when viewed from a lateral side thereof formed in said right angled juncture, at least one of said substantially triangular shaped stiffener channels being of substantially U-shaped cross-section in a plane

parallel with said first connector plate, at least one of said substantially triangular shaped stiffener channels further having a substantially U-shaped cross-section in a plane parallel with said second connector plate;

at least one substantially linear stiffener channel disposed in said first connector plate and corresponding to one of said stiffener channels disposed in said right angled juncture;

a plurality of ~~round~~ fastener holes through said second connector plate for receiving fasteners therethrough to non-movably affix said second connector plate to one of the members; and

fastening means in said first connector plate for non-movably affixing said ~~second~~ first connector plate to the another member.

41. (Currently amended) The fastener clip of claim 40 wherein said fastener means comprises a score line in said ~~second~~ first connector plate for locating at least one fastener ~~holes~~ therealong.

42. (Currently amended) A fastener clip comprising:
~~a clip having~~ an elongated first connector plate; ~~and~~
an elongated second connector plate at a right angle to said elongated ~~second~~ first connector plate and connected thereto;

at least one recessed stiffener region in said second connector plate;

aperture means in at least one of said recessed stiffener regions for receiving a fastener therethrough and for facilitating sliding travel of said second connector plate relative to the fastener; and

locating means in said first connector plate for locating at least one other fastener therealong, said locating means not piercing through said first connector plate.

43. (Previously presented) The fastener clip of claim 42 wherein said locating

means comprises at least one dimple in said first connector plate.

44. (Previously presented) The fastener clip of claim 42 wherein said locating means comprises a score line in said first connector plate.

45. (Previously presented) The fastener clip of claim 42 wherein said aperture means comprises at least one slot.

46. (Currently amended) A fastener clip comprising:
~~a clip having~~ an elongated first connector plate; ~~and~~
an elongated second connector plate at a right angle to said elongated ~~second~~ first
connector plate and connected thereto;
at least one recessed stiffener region in said second connector plate;
aperture means in at least one of said recessed stiffener regions for receiving a fastener
therethrough to non-movably affix the second connector plate to a member; and
locating means in said first connector plate for locating at least one fastener therealong,
said locating means not piercing through said first connector plate.

47. (Previously presented) The fastener clip of claim 46 wherein said locating means comprises at least one dimple in said first connector plate.

48. (Previously presented) The fastener clip of claim 46 wherein said locating means comprises a score line in said first connector plate.

49. (Previously presented) The fastener clip of claim 46 wherein said aperture means comprises at least two parallel rows of round holes.

50. (New) A vertical slide clip, comprising:
a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material;
a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material;
at least one stiffener channel formed in said piece of metal material and being disposed in
a juncture between said first and second connector plates;
at least one elongated slot in said second connector plate;
a score line in said first connector plate for locating fasteners therealong; and
at least one fastener-receiving dimple in said first connector plate and oriented on said
score line.

51. (New) A vertical slide clip, comprising:
a first connector plate formed from a piece of metal material;
a second connector plate formed from said piece of metal material;
at least one stiffener channel formed in said piece of metal material and being disposed in
a juncture between said first and second connector plates;
at least one elongated slot in said second connector plate;
a score line in said first connector plate for locating fasteners therealong; and
at least one measurement indicia in said second connector plate and associated with at
least one of said elongated slots.